

F-5-74

Locust Grove Church of the Brethren
Mt. Airy vicinity
Private

1873

The Locust Grove Church of the Brethren is a one-story stone meeting house with a raised basement built in 1873 and adjoined by a two-story brick veneered education wing erected in 1970. The original church had its principal entrances on the east elevation with separate openings for men and women and 6/6 windows. This facade remains mostly intact, with simple wood architraves and modern 6-panel doors added and concrete porches with a handicap access ramp. On the north and south gable ends are two bays and on the south is an inscribed marble stone with the church name and date. The cemetery is located northeast of the building. The church is minimally significant as an altered example of the meeting house form traditionally associated with Brethren churches in Frederick and surrounding counties. It is also moderately significant as a reflection of the development of the Brethren church in the east central section of Frederick County. An outgrowth of the Bush Creek congregation near Monrovia, established in the late 18th century, the Locust Grove church began in the period 1804-1858 as Brethren members began moving into the Linganore Creek area. By the late 1860's, a permanent building was necessary and the stone meeting house was built in 1873. Until 1911, the Locust Grove and Bush Creek Churches shared ministers. Since that date, the Locust Grove Church has been a separate congregation.

F-5-74

Locust Grove Church of the Brethren

Mt. Airy

Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning
Religion

Resource Types:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Local

Historic Function & Use:

Religion/religious facility/church

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Locust Grove Church of the Brethren

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 13300 block Glissans Mill Road ☐ not for publicationcity, town Mt. Airy ☒ vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Locust Grove Church of the Brethren

street & number Rt. 4 telephone no.:

city, town Mt. Airy state and zip code Maryland 21771

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio

city, town Frederick state Maryland 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-5-74

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

The Locust Grove Church of the Brethren is a stone meeting house built in 1873 with an adjoining brick veneered education wing built in 1970, located on the north side of Glissan's Mill Road about 75 yards west of the intersection of Harrisville Road approximately equidistant between Mt. Airy and Libertytown, Frederick County, Maryland. The church has a raised basement level which provides two stories, with the principal meeting room on the upper level. Adjoining the church on the northeast is a cemetery. The date of the church is inscribed on a small marble stone placed in the south gable end of the original building.

The church's basic original form is the rectangular one-story meeting house which is common to many Brethren religious structures in Frederick County. It has seven bays on the east side, with two entrances featuring modern architraves and plain pilasters located near each end of the elevation. The doors are also modern 6-panel types, under the original three-light transoms. The windows are 6/6. Recently built concrete porches and a handicap access ramp cross most of the base of the facade. The north and south gable ends each have two bays with 6/6 windows on both the main and basement levels. Attic windows with 2/2 sash are also in each end. Interior end chimneys rise at the gables. The roof is covered with composition material, although an early 20th century photo shows that the roof was originally standing seam metal. The west elevation is virtually completely obscured by the 1970 brick veneer education wing. The interior of the church was inaccessible for this survey, but a history of the church written in 1988 refers to several periods of remodeling in the 20th century. Near the south gable end is a cast iron hand pump at the edge of Glissan's Mill Road.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-5-74

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1873 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Locust Grove Church of the Brethren is minimally significant in architecture as an altered example of the meeting house form traditionally used by Brethren churches in Frederick County and surrounding areas since the late 18th century. This contrasts with the 1907 Bush Creek Church of the Brethren near Monrovia, which was the mother church of the Locust Grove congregation. The Bush Creek church is influenced by the Gothic Revival and Renaissance Revival, as were churches of many denominations during the early 20th century. The 1873 Locust Grove Church in its original state follows the simple, low profile of the meeting house, with separate entrances on the same elevation for men and women, and simple trim. Locust Grove church reflects the development of the Brethren Church in the east central section of Frederick County during the mid-19th century. The Bush Creek congregation was established as early as the 1770's near the vicinity of Monrovia. During the period 1804-1854, according to the Locust Grove history, members began settling in the Linganore Creek area and held meetings in homes, barns, and schoolhouses, sharing pastoral services with Bush Creek. It was then called the Linganore Church and over time came to be called the "Church of the Singing Hills", referring to the hymn-singing which accompanied baptismal ceremonies in Linganore Creek. By the late 1860's, the need for a permanent church building became overwhelmingly apparent. In 1868, the first council meeting was held and in 1873, the stone church was built in a grove of locust trees (no longer present) and it immediately came to be called by its current name. Ministers continued to alternate services at Locust Grove and Bush Creek until 1911, when Locust Grove became a separate church.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-5-74

Cooper, H. Austin. The Church of the Singing Hills. Locust Grove Church of the Brethren, Mt. Airy, Md., 1988

Williams, T.J.C., and Folger McKinsey. History of Frederick County, 1910. Reprinted Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1979, p. 463

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3 acresQuadrangle name Libertytown, Md.Quadrangle scale 1:24000UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Approximately 3 acres including the church on the parcel marked with a cross and the cemetery on parcel 34, Tax Map 70.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyororganization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date April 1994street & number 12 E. Church Street telephone 696-2958city or town Frederick state MD 21701

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

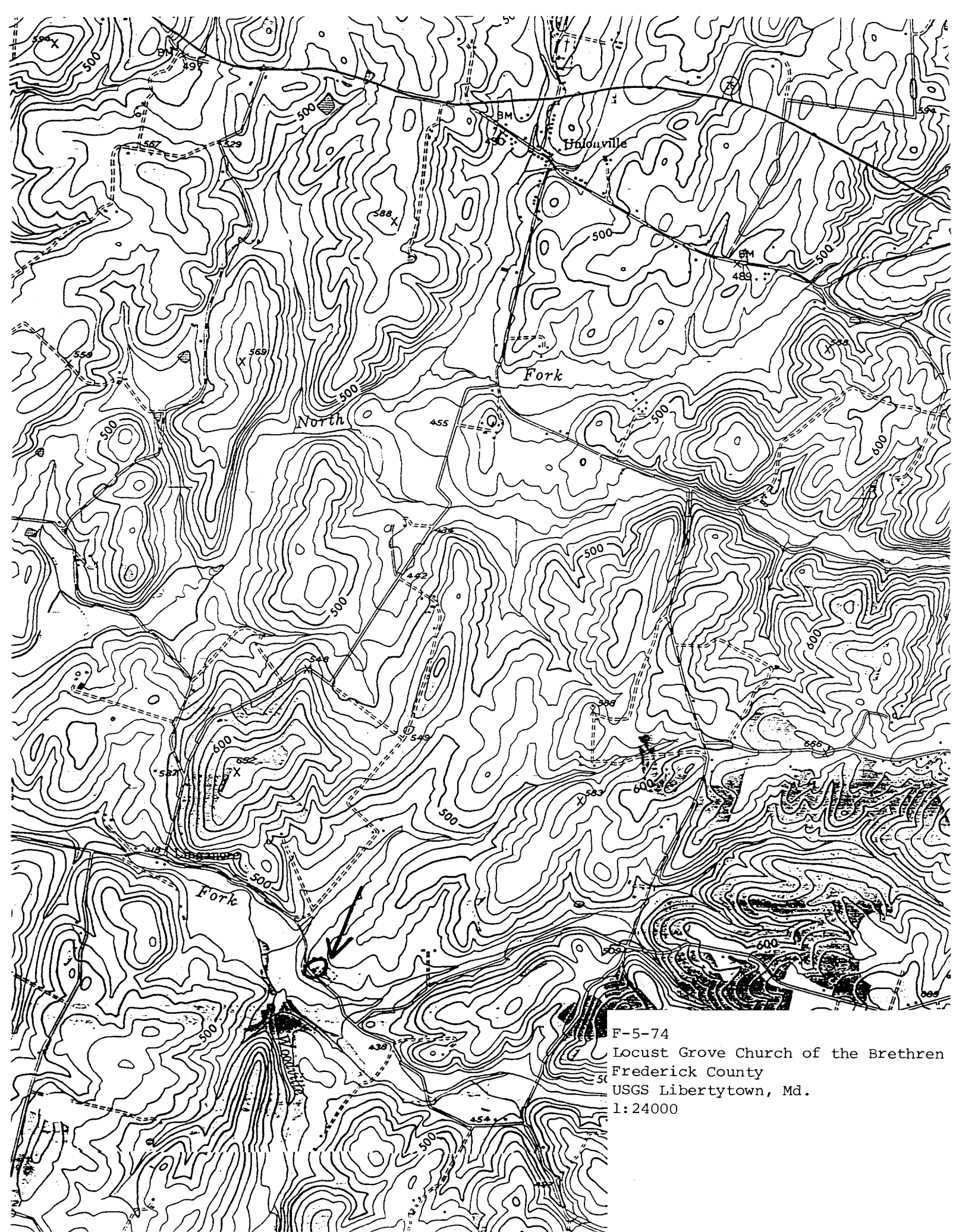
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

RECEIVED
CROWNSVILLE
APR 12 1994

Locust Grove Church of the Brethren

Liber/Folio	Grantee	Grantor	Lot Size, Description, Original Tracts, Miscellaneous	Cost
597/176 10 Mar 58	Locust Grove Church ...	E. Gertnole Burner		
WIP 6/417 17 Apr 1888			Cemetery	
TG 5/327 14 Mar 1876	Samuel Burall et al trustees	Jesse & Hannah Roop	1 3/4 A. of "Valley Farm" used, kept, maintained and disposed of as a place of Divine worship ... German Baptist Church in whose bounds the parcel is situate	#70



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Frederick County

USGS Libertytown, Md.

1:24000



F. 5-74

Locust Grove Church of the Brethren
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

April 1994

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md
East elevation

1/2



F-5-74

Locust Grove Church of the Brethren
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Dours

April 1994

Neg loc.: Md. SHPO. Crownsville Md

South elevation

2/2